

## HALL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2004

The Hall County Board of Supervisors met November 16, 2004, by published call in the county board meeting room, 121 South Pine, Grand Island.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pamela Lancaster.

INVOCATION - Invocation was given by Pamela Lancaster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

ROLL CALL - Present on roll call were Scott Arnold, Jim Eriksen, Richard Hartman, Bob Humiston, Bud Jeffries, Pamela Lancaster and Robert Rye. Also present was Hall County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz, Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham and a representative from the *Grand Island Independent*.

CONSENT AGENDA – Eriksen made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve the following by consent agenda:

1. Accept and place on file the minutes of the November 2 2004 meeting
2. 5a Approve Resolution #04-0066 for snow removal for Amick Acres West
3. 8 Accept and place on file the petition to exclude tract of real estate from the Hall County Industrial Area
4. 9 Accept and place on file the keno audits
5. 19 Approve Resolution #04-0067 for exchange of collateral for Heritage Bank for \$160,000.00
6. 23 Accept and place on file the office reports from emergency management, County Attorney, Statistical Report, County Sheriff, Hall & Howard County Juvenile Services, County Court and County Clerk
7. 24 Accept and place on file the Hall County Treasurer's Miscellaneous Receipts.
8. 25 Accept and place on file communications as received.

Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

### OFFICE REPORT

October 2004

TITLE FEES STATE	\$15,874.25
TITLE FEES COUNTY	\$ 8,336.75
RECORDING FEES	\$ 51.50
MARRIAGE LICENSES	\$ 330.00
PHOTO FEES/FAX FEES & MISC.	\$ 30.50
PLAT BOOKS/OTHER	\$ 19.25
CERTIFIED COPIES MARRIAGE LICENSES	\$ 90.00
TIME CARD FEES	\$ .00
TOTAL	\$21,705.25

OFFICE REPORT  
HALL COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES  
OCTOBER 2004

JUVENILE REFERRALS	47 JUVENILES
JUVENILE OFFENDERS	1 JUVENILE
JUVENILE HOUSE ARREST	3 JUVENILES
TOTAL UNDER SUPERVISION	268 JUVENILES
FEES COLLECTED	\$760.00

OFFICE REPORT  
HOWARD COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES  
OCTOBER 2004

JUVENILE REFERRALS	1 JUVENILES
TOTAL JUVENILE ENROLLEES	27 JUVENILES
FEES COLLECTED FOR MONTH	\$175.00
TOTAL FEES COLLECTED FISCAL YEAR	\$ 775.00

COUNTY COURT  
OFFICE REPORT  
OCTOBER 2004

FINES (CO.)	\$ 58,496.91
OVERLOAD FINES	125.00
REIMBURSE SHERIFF FEES	1,734.93
WORK RELEASE FEES	625.00
REIMBURSE FAX COPIES	20.00
FINES (CITY)	10,604.08
REIMBURSE WITNESS FEES	379.30
BOND FORFEITURES	2,292.75
REIMBURSE CO. FEES	
TOTAL	\$ 74,257.97

OFFICE REPORT  
HALL COUNTY SHERIFF SEPTEMBER 2004

TOTAL FEES MILEAGE & MISC	\$15,738.64
COPIES	76.00
HANDGUN APPLICATIONS	35.00
TITLE INSPECTIONS	2,930.00

JUDGE MARTIN & JUDGE BUSH TO DISCUSS JAIL OPTIONS - Judge Bush stated that because the bond issue for the jail failed they wanted to address this situation. County Court could look at work release or the electronic monitoring. They thought that house arrest, even if it was at the County's expense cost less but that is not true. He discussed ways that the judges could make sure that they have all of the information on each situation before the people come to trial so they can come to an educated decision. He noted the bad check situations and if the merchants could be encouraged to do away with the check system this could also help the courts.

Lancaster stated that she appreciated the fact the he came to the board. These are issues that the board will have to address. As the community grows the criminal element will also grow.

Arnold noted that if the judges set bonds and the people do not show up for the hearings then the Sheriff incurs the costs of serving warrants. Sheriff Watson noted that his department works 2400 warrants a year and they also do the bench warrants. These suggestions may solve the population issue but not the cost issues. The Judges are willing to help.

Jeffries stated that the county does not want to send the message that the county will not sent people to jail. The general population wants strong law enforcement. Discussion was held to appoint a committee to discuss these issues and seek community involvement.

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU UPDATE - Renee Seifert was present. She also noted that public safety is a concern. She thanked the County Board for their continued support. They are getting settled in their new quarters located at 2424 South Locust and she invited the board to stop in. She noted that the CVB received an award from the state for and out standing tourism publication. She noted the picture that was provided by Rick Rasmussen a local photographer. This publication is distributed all over the United States. She also distributed a copy of the Rotella Superigs calendar for 2005 from the "beauty contest" that was held at Bosselman's Travel Center. There are several local pictures included in the calendar. She also noted that the Heartland Events Center has broke ground for the center. They are also working to get the signage corrected for the South Locust exit. She thanked Dave Arnold for the work crew that assisted with moving her offices and stated that she appreciates these partnerships.

COUNTY ATTORNEY – County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz stated that he did not have any items on the agenda but encouraged the board to consider appointing Mark Young as County Attorney. He stated that he knows Mark as an individual and noted that he is fearless in the court room. He urged the County Board to consider his appointment.

4. CHUCK MCCANN DISCUSSION ON WOOD RIVER VIADUCT PROJECT -  
Chuck McCann as present and distributed a map showing the proposed viaduct location.

He also noted that he would like to update Renee on the sings on the interstate and stated that the signs have been ordered and when they are completed they will be put up.

He stated that the City of Wood River requested the viaduct study in their community and once this was completed five public meetings were held addressing the request and

the proposed location of the viaduct. This map is the outcome of those meetings. This project will not be forced on the community they need to be in agreement and will have to sign the agreement before it proceeds. This project and agreement has come to the county board because some of the road will become the county's responsibility. He noted the area on the map that showed the road. He also noted that some of the people that do not live in Wood River had come to the Board because the County Board will have to represent them because they also do business in Wood River. The agreement has been prepared and the City will have to sign off on it, then it will come to the County Board.

Hartman stated that he represents the town and the county and questioned why the walkway could not be extended to Highway #30. This proposal could involve additional costs to the City of Wood River.

Eriksen stated that the final decision is up to the City of Wood River. Jeffries also stated that the City of Wood River can make this decision, but if they turn this project down they could not address this issue for 10 to 15 years.

Mr. McCann explained that the dollars to fund these projects come from the train mile tax, federal funds for railroad crossing safety and state highway funds. Only one project a year is built and the projects are prioritized according to the number of conflicts on the crossings.

Hartman noted that the county did not accept a proposed crossing by Platte Valley Academy.

Lancaster thanked Mr. McCann for coming to the meeting. The County Board was concerned on the roll that the county played and the authority that the board has. The decision is with the City of Wood River.

**5 b PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT BIDS ON BRIDGE MATERIAL** – The committee report was included. Jeffries made a motion and Eriksen seconded to set the bid opening for the bridge material for December 14 at 10:00 a.m. with the bids to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday December 13. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

**5c ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE REPORT FROM COUNTY SURVEYOR REGARDING CLOSING OF 80<sup>TH</sup> ROAD** – This was referred to Dan Hostler County Surveyor and he has completed his report. Mr. Hostler stated that there is a plan from Heritage with the study. County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz stated that the board will need to adopt a resolution to proceed with the closing of the road. A public hearing will be held and the hearing will need to be advertised for three weeks. Janulewicz stated that if the board wants to proceed with the temporary closing they will need to discuss this issue with Heritage.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Chairman Lancaster called for public participation and Attorney Ralph Bradley was present and requested to speak to the County Board.

Public participation Attorney Ralph Bradley was present and requested to speak to the board. He stated that he has talked to other member of the bar association and he

wanted to support the appointment of Mark Young as County Attorney. He stated that Mr. Young is dedicated and qualified for the job.

Jeffries stated that he had calls from other attorneys supporting the appointment of Mr. Young and he did have one phone calls expressing interest in the position.

Lancaster stated that the county did not request applications because the board can simply appoint a county attorney. Hartman questioned if the board assistant had received any phone calls or applications. She stated she did not.

Jeffries made a motion and Hartman seconded to appoint Mark Young to serve as county attorney for the remaining term of office. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Mark Young was present and thanked the County Board for the appointment. He stated that Jerry was the best researcher that the office has ever had. Michelle Oldham will take his place with the administrative issues.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Chairman Lancaster called for public participation and no one responded.

**7. DISCUSS ACCESS TO SOUTH LOCUST PROPERTY** – Jeffries stated that the county owns 200 acres of land by the South Locust Interchange that is land locked. In order to access the property the county would have to purchase land from the adjacent property owner in order to gain access to the property. The county will need to survey the property first.

Jeffries made a motion and Hartman seconded to start the process to gain access to the county owned property on South Locust. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

**10. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GRAND ISLAND LIBRARY BOARD AND HALL COUNTY REGARDING THE BOOKMOBILE.** – Arnold stated that this was discussed during budget time and the county allowed dollars for the contract. The contract was extended and additional negotiations were held. The Library expressed interest in the mobile data system to access the internet. Mr. Drudik has the equipment necessary to do this once the law enforcement project is completed.

Arnold made a motion and Humiston seconded to approve the one year contract in the amount of \$77,500.00 in monthly payments. IT Director Doug Drudik will install the mobile data system in the bookmobile. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

**13. AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – AUDIT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** – The county board has order the audits of offices in the past.

Hartman made a motion and Arnold seconded to authorize the chair to sign the engagement letter for the audit of the Hall County Attorney's Office. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

12. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON KENO ADMINISTRATOR – Hartman made a motion and Humiston seconded to go into executive session. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

11:05 a.m. executive session

11:20 a.m. Hartman made a motion and Jeffries seconded to go out of executive session. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

16 COMMENCE AUDIT OF BI WEEKLY PAY CLAIMS AND REGULAR CLAIMS AND ACTION ON CLAIM AUDIT – The board members reviewed the claims. Hartman made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve the bi weekly pay claims and the regular claims. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Hartman made a motion and Humiston seconded to appoint Stacy Ruzicka and the keno administrator for Hall County. She will receive compensation at the same amount as before. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

17. DISCUSS HALL COUNTY HIRING POLICY – Eriksen stated that as the county continues to look at budgets and finances and as the budget get tighter and tighter he questioned if the county can continue to fill vacancies as they occur. He suggested that employees could transfer from department to department to fill the positions, or that it may be necessary that the board approve all new hirers including replacement positions. The board cut all of the extras out this year.

Hartman stated the board has enough teeth and they can't micro-manage everything. The department heads are elected officials and appointed officials are under the county board the board needs to look at other issues.

Eriksen stated that he is trying to protect the existing employees and is concerned if the board would have to cut staff.

Arnold stated he would like to better understand the employee's positions. For example, the Hall County Sheriff's Department has grants to hire deputies so the county has to maintain these positions. He suggested determining essential employees for county departments. He suggested referring this to a committee.

Jeffries stated that the county board needs to do a study to determine how many people are required and look at part-time employees instead of full time.

Lancaster stated that this is necessary discussion. She suggested that the board may have to look at large projects and determine when and if they should be completed.

Eriksen suggested that this should be referred to a committee. The Chair will appoint a committee to study these issues.

18 REUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION PRIORITIZATION OF DISPOSAL OF REMAINING TRACTS AT CAAP – The reuse committee met and reviewed the disposal of the remaining tracts and they agreed to follow the recommendation of the Corp to hold a public auction next August. Due to the amount of contamination of these tracts the Army recommended to clean the property to the one foot level instead of the 4 ft level. Discussion was also held to pull tract 21 from the sale until it is cleaned up.

Eriksen made a motion and Arnold seconded to approve the proposed schedule for the disposal of the remaining tracts but to pull Tract 21 from the sale until it is cleaned up.

Discussion was held on the fact that the Army placed the materials on the property and it should be their responsibility to clean it up.

Jeffries noted that they have not been unable to spray for musk thistle on these tracts and stated the land should not be sold until it is clean. If the land is sold and is not clean it will be a problem that the taxpayers will have to pay for. Arnold also expressed concern on who would have to pay the bill if it was sold and not cleaned up. Eriksen suggested that NRD could take title to the land that has been cleaned up and agree to pay the same number of dollars per acres once the property has been cleaned up. He also suggested that the areas that are not clean could be fenced off. Hartman noted that if the land is purchased and it not clean the buyer would be responsible. It should be clean before it is sold.

County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz suggested that the board approve the proposed schedule except for Tract 21 and advocate that the land be cleaned to the four foot depth. The other tracts have been cleaned to the four-foot depth but he is not sure if EPA has signed off on these tracts.

The vote on the motion to approve the proposed schedule was taken. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and Hartman voted no. Motion carried.

#### BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT – Hartman – no report

Humiston – no report

Eriksen – He stated that he attended the health board meeting and the flu vaccine was on their agenda. He noted the cooperation between the counties regarding the shortage of vaccine and how they worked together to obtain vaccine for high risk people. He also attended the public hearing with the EPA regarding the 20 tracts that have been designated to NPPD. There was no public present only written comments. Eriksen also questioned Mr. Hartman concerning Rod Bass and if he had been suspended or fired. Hartman stated that he was still working.

Rye – no report

Jeffries – He attended the reuse committee meeting, two personnel meetings and building and grounds. The building and grounds needs to discuss the inventory of the Hall County Park.

Arnold – He worked on the bookmobile contract and also attended the building and grounds meeting. They discussed the janitorial services and approved continuing the services with the current provider.

Lancaster – She reviewed a report on indigent defense in the State of Nebraska and encourage the board members to look at it. It will be on file in the board assistant's office.

NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Chairman Lancaster called for new or unfinished business and County Clerk Marla Conley requested to change the time for the bid opening for the bridge materials to 10:15 a.m. there is another bid opening scheduled for 10:00 a.m.

Arnold made a motion and Eriksen seconded to amend the bid opening for the bridge materials to December 14, 2004 at 10:15 a.m. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Chairman Lancaster called for any additional new or unfinished business and no one responded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 a.m. The next meeting will be November 30, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

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Marla J. Conley Hall County Clerk